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JANUARY 29, 1971

Honorable Vance Hartke
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hartke:

The Secretary has asked me to reply to your letter of January 15, 1971 inquiring, on behalf of Mr. Ray Mitrione, as to what measures were being taken to apprehend the murderers of his brother, Dan A. Mitrione, in Uruguay.

Mr. Byron Engle, the Director of AID's Office of Public Safety, under whose direction Mr. Dan Mitrione was assigned to Montevideo, telephoned Mr. Ray Mitrione on December 23, answering his questions and providing as much information as possible. Mr. Engle also invited Mr. Mitrione to come to Washington so that he could see some of the file material on his brother's case. Mr. Ray Mitrione later indicated he might be able to come to Washington next June.

It is my understanding that the Uruguayan Police are actively continuing their investigation into the murder of Mr. Dan Mitrione, as well as the kidnappings of the Brazilian Consul, Aloysio Mares Dias Gomide, the American agricultural specialist, Dr. Claude L. Fly, and the British Ambassador, Geoffrey Jackson, all of whom are still being held by the Tupamaro terrorists. Eight terrorists are being held for participating or being implicated in the kidnapping of Mr. Dan Mitrione and the Brazilian Consul, but the actual murderer or murderers of Mr. Dan Mitrione have not yet been identified. I might add that the Uruguayan Congress has twice within the past six months - once after the murder of Mr. Mitrione and again after the kidnapping of the British Ambassador - approved suspensions of certain individual rights and constitutional

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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ARA/APU:U:DWCox

guarantees to allow the Police to pursue their search for the terrorists. In addition the Uruguayan Government offered a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of terrorists a few days after Mr. Mitrione was kidnapped. Though small by our standards ($4,000), that reward offer helped to encourage many useful tips and bits of information, though not, to our regret, to the positive identification and apprehension of the murderer or murderers of Mr. Mitrione.

I hope this information is of use to you. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance, particularly as to whether you or a member of your staff would like an oral briefing.

Sincerely,

GW/DMA CSP 1/27

David M. Abshire
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

Enclosure:
Correspondence returned

Clearances:
ARA/APU - Mr. Marasciulo
AID/OPS - Mr. Munroe
ARA - Mr. Crimmins
A/BF - Mr. Donelan
O - Mr. ~~Macomber~~

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January 21, 1971

Byron:

As Dave Cox asked me to do, I telephoned today to Rosemary Rorick, Senator Hartke's staff assistant and told her I had had no occasion to call her since we worked so closely with her at the time the Mitrione case broke, but seeing the letter from the Senator now, and at State Department request, had prompted me to call her now.

I told her we had received a letter from Ray Mitrione before Christmas asking how the investigation was coming in Montevideo and that you had called him on the phone to bring him up to date to extent possible on the phone. Further that you had invited him to come here whenever he can so we can go more into detail, and that since then have heard by letter from Ray Mitrione saying he hoped to come here later.

In response to her question about a reward, I told her the matter would be dealt with by State Department which will be responding to Senator Hartke's letter.

She thanked me for calling, saying it was good to renew our old association and to just let her know if they could do anything for us. They would be glad to help if they can, she said.

Munroe

cc: ARA/LA/APU, Dave Cox

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ARA/LA/APU, Mr. David W. Cox — Dec. 30, 1970

OPS, Johnson F. Munroe

Letter from Congressman David W. Dennis (Indiana)

Per our telephone conversation this afternoon, Mr. Ray Mitrione of Richmond, Indiana, had written to Byron Engle, Director of the Office of Public Safety, about the same time he wrote to Congressman Dennis seeking the same information mentioned by him in his letter to the Congressman about the investigation of the circumstances surrounding the kidnapping and murder of his brother, Dan Mitrione, in Montevideo.

Upon receipt of Mr. Mitrione's letter, Mr. Engle telephoned him December 23rd and gave him the answers to the questions he had raised to the extent possible without getting into some of the sensitive areas of the police actions since Dan Mitrione was murdered. I have today talked to Mr. Mitrione who said he had received all the information he needed and would write to Congressman Dennis letting him know this, and that he does not now need the Congressman's assistance. He said he had tried to contact Congressman Dennis in Richmond today on this but learned the Congressman had returned to Washington. Consequently he will write to him to say he now has the answers he needed.

For your information, and you may so advise Congressman Dennis, Mr. Engle also invited Mr. Mitrione to visit our office if he should come to Washington soon, so that we may show to him some of the material from our files concerning the investigations which have been conducted by the Montevideo police in connection with his brother's death. He tells me he hopes to accept this invitation soon.

In view of the foregoing, we are returning the correspondence from Congressman Dennis in order that a prompt reply, along lines above, may be prepared.

Attachments:
Ltr dated 12/22/70 from Congressman Dennis
enclosing Ray Mitrione's letter 12/17/70

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ACTION
is assigned to
AFA

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MARLOW W. COOK, KY.
FREDERICK J. LORDAN, STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

January 15, 1971

The Honorable William Rogers
Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Enclosed is a letter I have received from Mr. Roy Mitrione, brother of Dan Mitrione who died in that most tragic incident in Uruguay this past summer.

I request that the State Department provide me with a full and complete report on action taken in this case.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Vance Hartke

Vance Hartke
United States Senator

Enclosure

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P. O. Box 982
Richmond, Indiana
January 8, 1971

The Honorable Vance Hartke
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Hartke:

Several months have passed now and we have never heard anything further regarding the death of my brother Dan. At the time Dan was killed, several Tupamaros were arrested but nothing was ever indicated whether they had caught the men who killed Dan. Would you be able to find out anything on this?

Would it be possible for our government to offer a reward for information on the man, or men, who killed Dan? It is known that money means a lot to these people and they will go to any length to get it -- even to turning on their fellowmen. Could this be considered?

Right now we feel that nothing has been done -- that Dan's death is just a closed chapter. Yet, we feel those who killed Dan should be found and punished for this crime. Dan was living in a foreign country but was working for the United States government and I hope we are doing everything possible to find these men and prosecute them, just the same as if this had happened here in the United States.

I hope you understand our feelings - as his brothers and sisters, we still have so many unanswered questions.

We certainly will appreciate any information you can give us.

Sincerely
Ray Mitrione
Ray Mitrione

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9305

UNCLAS MONTEVIDEO 0291

SUBJECT: MITRIONE MEMORIAL

PASS AID PUBLIC SAFETY

1. TODAY (AUGUST 9) AMBASSADOR ADAIR WAS PRESENTED WITH BEAUTIFUL BRONZE AND MARBLE PLAQUE COMMEMORATING THE SIX MONTHS ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF DAN MITRIONE. MOUNTED ON THE 19 BY 20 INCH WHITE URUGUAYAN MARBLE PLAQUE ARE A CIRCULAR BRONZE BAS-RELIEF OF DAN MITRIONE AND THE INSCRIPTION "DAN A. MITRIONE. 10 AUGUST 1970. IN GNERNAL MEMORY WITH REVERENCE FROM THE CITIZENS OF URUGUAY." THE PRESENTATION WAS MADE BY MR. EMILIO A. LEANDRI, AN URUGUAYAN BUSINESSMAN WHOSE FOUNDRY CAST THE BAS-RELIEF. MR. LEANDRI REQUESTED AMBASSADOR ADAIR TO FORWARD THE COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE TO MRS. MITRIONE, SO THAT SHE MAY DETERMINE WHERE SHE WOULD LIKE IT PLACED.

2. EMBASSY WILL POUCH THE PLAQUE TO ARA/APU. DEPARTMENT WILL WANT TO ADVISE MRS. MITRIONE OF THE PRESENTATION BEFORE THE COMMEMORATION CEREMONIES SCHEDULED IN RICHMOND, INDIANA, FEBRUARY 10. THE PLAQUE IS WELL EXECUTED AND SUITABLE FOR PUBLIC PLACEMENT. MRS. MITRIONE MAY WISH TO OFFER IT TO CITY OFFICIALS IN RICHMOND.

3. THE MOVING FORCE BEHIND THE PLAQUE WAS MR. LEANDRI. HIS MONTEVIDEO ADDRESS IS: AVENIDA RIVERA 5129. HE WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO BE INFORMED OF THE FINAL DISPOSITION MRS. MITRIONE DECIDES FOR THE PLAQUE.

GP-3. ADAIR

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